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Agenda item 89 (b)

Eradication of poverty and other development issues: women and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Azanaw Tadesse **Abreha** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 89 (see A/59/487, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 36th and 38th meetings, on 24 November and 7 December 2004. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/59/SR.36 and 38).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/59/L.48 and A/C.2/59/L.58

2. At the 36th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution entitled "World Survey on the role of women in development" (A/C.2/59/L.48), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 54/210 of 22 December 1999 and 58/206 of 23 December 2003 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions, including those on women in the economy, adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in four parts, under the symbol A/59/487 and Add.1-3.

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"*Recalling also* the goals and commitments contained in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century',

"*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective and essential in the combat of poverty, hunger and disease and in stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

"*Recognizing* that in countries where the effects of globalization have increased poverty and left women with limited economic, social or political rights, international migration may be the best or only way to better their social and economic situation,

"*Recognizing also* that migrant women can contribute to the economic development of both their country of origin and their country of destination through financial contributions from remittances,

"*Noting* that women are at greater risk of discrimination, exploitation and abuse than male migrants,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'World Survey on the Role of Women in Development', and encourages States to develop policies that enhance the situation of migrant women, taking into account the recommendations included in the report;

"2. *Emphasizes* that a gender perspective is essential for understanding both the causes and consequences of international migration;

"3. *Stresses* the need to undertake research and collect data on international migration and disseminate them in appropriate ways, particularly by disaggregating all statistics by sex and age, in order to improve understanding of the causes of female migration and its impact on women, countries of origin and countries of destination, to provide a solid basis for the formulation of appropriate policies and programmes;

"4. *Welcomes* the review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century', as well as the addressing of current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which will take place from 28 February to 11 March 2005, and calls upon the Commission on the Status of Women to reaffirm commitments contained in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, noting that the survey should focus, as in the past, on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

"6. *Reiterates* the decision of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the sub-item entitled 'Women in development'."

3. At the 38th meeting, on 7 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Majdi Ramadan (Lebanon), introduced a draft resolution entitled "World Survey on the role of women in development" (A/C.2/59/L.58), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.48.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of France and Cuba (see A/C.2/59/SR.38).

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.58, as orally corrected (see para. 8).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.48 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

World Survey on the role of women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/210 of 22 December 1999 and 58/206 of 23 December 2003 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development",[1] which focuses on women and international migration, and decides to consider the report at its sixtieth session under the sub-item entitled "Women in development";

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, noting that the survey should continue to focus on selected emerging development themes that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels, to be identified at its sixtieth session.

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[1] A/59/287 and Add.1.